

VA San Diego Healthcare System

Pharmacy VALOR Program



Program Overview

The Veterans Affairs Learning Opportunities Residency (VALOR) Program is a national pre-residency program for pharmacy interns during their rotational year. The program is targeted towards individuals interested in a career in hospital-based pharmacy practice, either in the inpatient or ambulatory care setting. The goal of the VALOR program is to provide hands-on experience in various facets of hospital-based pharmacy practice, foster development of leadership skills and help prepare the intern for a residency program through advanced clinical training. For the 2016-2017 academic year, there are two VALOR positions available.

Facilities

VA San Diego Healthcare System (VASDHS) includes a 304-bed tertiary care medical center in La Jolla and clinics in Mission Valley, Imperial Valley, Chula Vista, Oceanside, and Escondido, as well as two Veterans Centers in San Diego and Vista. VA San Diego has seven inpatient care areas consisting of an Intensive Care Unit, Direct Observation Unit, Surgery, Medicine, Extended Care Center, Psychiatry and Spinal Cord Injury.

Educational Opportunities

- * Learn the impact of hospital-based pharmacy practice on the healthcare system through one-on-one shadowing experiences with seasoned clinical pharmacists
- * Complete a series of clinical-based patient cases and engage in various topic discussions designed to strengthen therapeutic knowledge, enhance critical thinking skills, and improve proficiency in conducting patient presentations
- * Become proficient in compounding sterile preparations in accordance with USP 797 guidelines and familiar with hospital automated dispensing systems
- * Complete medication safety/quality assurance projects
- * Have an opportunity to conduct an original research project with the goal of presenting a poster at a state or national pharmacy meeting and/or future publication submission



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Eligibility

- * GPA of 3.0 or higher (For students enrolled in a school or college of pharmacy that utilizes a pass/fail grading system there must be a recommendation from the Dean or Director of academic program regarding the student's academic achievement to substantiate selection for the VALOR program.)
- * Must be enrolled in an ACPE accredited Doctor of Pharmacy program
- * Must be entering last year (rotational year) of pharmacy school by Fall 2016
- * Must have ≥ 80% of APPE rotations within the San Diego area
- * Must have an interest in hospital-based pharmacy practice and plan to apply for a PGY1 residency program in 2017
- * Must be able to demonstrate leadership potential and have excellent communication skills
- * Must be a US citizen

How to Apply

- * The following must be submitted ONLINE at <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/427716700?share=email>
 1. Letter of intent. Must address:
 - * qualifications and reasons for applying to the VALOR program
 - * at least 1 strength and 1 weakness
 2. Curriculum vitae
 3. VA Form 10-2850d - Application for Health Professions Trainees
 4. Pharmacy school transcript
 - * For students enrolled in a college of pharmacy that utilizes a pass/fail grading system, there must be a recommendation from the Dean or Director of academic program regarding the student's academic achievement to substantiate selection for the VALOR program.
- * The following must be EMAILED directly to the VALOR Coordinator at <jeanne.ventura@va.gov>
 - TWO letters of recommendation. Letter writers must comment on the following:
 - * clinical/academic and leadership abilities
 - * how the candidate compares with concurrent students

Requirements

Selected VALOR interns must be able to complete a minimum of 400 hours as a Pharmacy VALOR intern in a VA facility. Interns will be required to work full-time during the summer months immediately prior to clinical/clerkship rotations and will be expected to work on a part-time basis throughout their rotational year at the VASDHS. (For students in year-round programs, they will be expected to start immediately upon completion of their second year of didactic learning.)

Benefits

- * Salary: approximately \$20 - 24/hr
- * Exclusive training and preparation for a pharmacy residency position
- * Professional networking opportunities
- * Spend additional time in areas of interest
- * Exposure to the Veterans Affairs healthcare system – the largest integrated healthcare system in the USA

For more information, please contact:

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DEADLINE: February 29, 2016

by 11:59 PM (Eastern Standard Time)

